

AMENITIES COMMITTEE – MAY 2015

At the Meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Thursday 26th May 2015 at 18.00 in the Town Council Office, Fourways 2, 6 Dilston Terrace, Amble.

PRESENT: Cllrs J Dargue (Chair), H Lewis, K Morrison and C Weir and with the Clerk; Miss E Brown. Fiona Wilce and Michael Forrest – Amble Allotment Holders Society

Actions

1: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr Robinson had indicated that he was resigning from the Committee.

2: DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS: Dispensations had been received from Cllrs Morrison, Lewis and Weir regarding the allotments as they were all rent paying tenants at the raised beds site.

3: PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: (maximum 15 minutes)

3.1: Amble Allotment Holders Society Report – The Society had recently held their AGM and monthly meeting. There had only been one change to the Members of their Committee. All allotment gardens were fully allocated. An inspection had been held on Monday 18th. The Committee were encouraging struggling tenants to make them aware of any problems they were having so that steps, such as the 'Good Neighbour Scheme' could be used to help.

The number of unauthorised structures was noted. AAHS would put notices up informing that all new structures and renewing of existing structures must first be approved by the Amenities Committee. It was agreed that the Council would also draft a letter to be sent to the Society to reinforce the views of the Committee. AAHS confirmed that was still a healthy waiting list for allotment tenants.

AAHS

A bi-annual newsletter had been started by the committee, as printing costs were expensive, it was agreed that should the cost of printing in the TC Office be less than £10 per 300 copies, that the Town Council would cover the printing costs.

Clerk

Fly tipping was noted that the Wynd entrance of the allotments. At the site visit the Members noted a rusted pole an allotment one the West site which had a rope extended from it to a house on High Street

4: CLERK'S REPORT & MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM:

The contents of the Clerk's Report were noted and any matter arising be considered.

4.1: 'Structure programme' - assessment and review of old and new structures on allotments – This was discussed in the AAHS report.

4.2: Good Allotment Guide – This was discussed in the AAHS report.

4.3: Drainage Issues West Allotment site – Quotes had been received for CCTV to investigate a possible collapse of the culvert. It was agreed that the Clerk should liaise with Steve McMaster over the best options due to his knowledge in this area of work.

Clerk

4.4: Dog fouling signage for allotments – The signage for the entrances was awaiting delivery, but the smaller notices to be displayed along the walkways were handed over the AAHS.

4.5: No Horses signage for West Allotment – The signage was awaiting delivery.

4.6: Acklington Road Bus shelter – JSCS – As the school was experiencing difficulties in completing this project due to machine problems, it was agreed to thank Mr Coils for all of his hard work on the project and reluctantly withdraw the project from the school. Arrangements would be made elsewhere for the completion of the project do the same design specification.

Clerk

4.7: Acklington Road Bus shelter – Gloster Park side – It was agreed that the blocks would be painted red to warn of the trip hazard.

Enviro

4.8: High Street replacement bus shelter update – The new bus shelter was expected to be in place by mid-July.

4.9: Coquet Enterprise Park bus shelter removal – The bus shelter was expected to be removed by mid July.

4.10: Church Street bus shelter mural – It was agreed that the mural could be extended to include the inner side walls of the shelter. The Members were all delighted with the mural and a letter of thanks would be sent. The seat would be painted in black and the floor would be painted red by the Environmental Operative.

4.11: Email sent regarding discharge of conditions on planning application 14/03842/DISCON relating to bus shelters – Persimmons had responded stating that they were deferring the erection of the bus shelters until a more appropriate time and transferring the funds to NCC. The Clerk was pursuing a contact at NCC for more

Clerk

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information on this.

4.12: Sodexo Community Involvement Update – Members were anxious to progress this item. A meeting had been set up with Clair Hutchings to take place on 25th June, it was agreed that a working group would meet prior to this to discuss ideas further.

TC

4.13: Litter bins changes – The requested changes had been completed.

4.14: Town Trail working party – It was agreed that a working party would meet in September.

Clerk

4.15: Town Council noticeboards and suitable locations for siting them – It was agreed that this needed to be progressed as soon as possible.

Clerk

5: AGENDA ITEMS:

5.1: To consider comments from site visit: Queries had been raised during the AAHS report. The Clerk was required to request the repair of the fence near the Northumbrian Water access.

Clerk

5.2: To consider changing to annual planting for the Dilston Terrace planters – It was agreed to investigate cost; the Council were minded to pay for colourful perennials if NCC would be willing to maintain them. A working party would be set up to discuss planting around the town with Colin Green.

Clerk

5.3: To consider purchase of tiered floral display for roundabout at South Entrance – It was agreed to ask the caravan park and Persimmons if they would be willing to install and maintain a display on the roundabout.

Clerk

5.4: To consider quotes for painting of machine store – A quotation was agreed. The work would take place before the end of July.

5.5: To consider transfer of burial rights leaflet – The leaflet was agreed, it would be circulated to Members for information.

6: COMMUNICATIONS: None.

7: INFORMATION ITEMS: None.

8: DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING: The next Meeting is Thursday 30th July 2015

The meeting closed at 8.00pm.